

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-5 and 11-30 remain pending. Non-elected claims 6-10 have been canceled without prejudice. An editorial revision has been made in claim 5, which is supported for example at page 14, lines 32-33 of the specification.

The title of the application has been revised. Applicants courteously invite the Examiner's suggestion for a new title if the present title is not considered satisfactory.

Claim 5 has been rejected as anticipated by Satoh. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 5 requires a sector position identifier in addition to a sector area and a management area. The sector position identifier of claim 5 is used for determining an amount of sector dislocation between information layers. Thus, the sector position identifier of claim 5 is not simply an area where information concerning sector dislocation is recorded.

Satoh provides identification sections IDa and IDb. As seen at Col. 3, lines 49-51, each sector is provided with an identification sector, and information concerning the Sector S is recorded in the corresponding identification sector. The identification sectors in Satoh merely are used to record predetermined information about the respective sectors, and are not useful for determining an amount of sector dislocation between information layers. For example, the area SA mentioned in the rejection is a sector address, i.e. an area where information concerning the respective sector is recorded. See Col. 3, line 56, Col. 4, lines 3-6 and Col. 4, lines 36-39.

Therefore, Satoh neither discloses nor suggests the invention of claim 5.

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested.



Date:

August 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas P. Mueller".

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